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PETER VERNIERO
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

By: Marilyn Bair
Deputy Attorney General
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07102
Tel: (201) 648-3696

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

In the Matter of

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ROBERT RICKARDS, D.M.D.

Licensed to Practice Dentistry: in the State of New Jersey :

Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry ("Board") upon receipt of a patient complaint from B.S. concerning dental treatment performed by Robert Rickards, D.M.D. ("respondent") consisting in pertinent part of restorative work involving crowns and a three unit bridge on teeth #13, #14, and #15. The Board reviewed the entire record in this matter including patient records and a board consultant report. Further, on October 16, 1996, respondent appeared at an investigative inquiry held by the Board, and respondent testified as to his dental treatment of B.S., and responded to questions by members of the Board. Having reviewed the record and having heard the testimony of respondent concerning the dental treatment rendered to B.S., it appears to the Board that respondent failed to take radiographs, failed to perform periodontal charting, failed to communicate with the treating

dentist for B.S., and failed to maintain adequate financial records.

It appearing that the parties desire to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings and for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS 9th DAY OF January 1996

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

- 1. Respondent shall successfully complete seven (7) hours of continuing education in basic diagnosis and treatment planning and fourteen (14) hours of continuing education in basic crown and bridge. These courses, which are in addition to the regularly required continuing education hours, shall be approved by the Board in writing prior to attendance, utilizing the attached Pre-Approval Sheet. The courses must be completed within six months of the entry date of this Order. Respondent also shall be required to complete the attached Continuing Education Report and Proof of Attendance as proof of successful completion of the required course work. The attached forms are made a part of the within Order.
- 2. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00 for failure to take radiographs, perform periodontal charting, consult with treating dentist, and keep adequate records. Said penalty shall be paid within fourteen days of the entry date of this Consent Order. Payment shall be by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Ms. Agnes Clarke, Executive Director, Board of Dentistry, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102.

- 3. Respondent is hereby assessed the costs of the investigative inquiry in the amount of \$133.25 to be paid within fourteen days of the entry date of this Consent Order. Payment shall be made as directed in paragraph 2. of this Consent Order.
- 4. Respondent shall reimburse B.S. the \$780.00 insurance payment he received so that she may seek treatment elsewhere. A certified check or money order made payable to Betty Sapienza shall be sent within fourteen days of the entry date of this Order to Ms. Agnes Clarke, Executive Director, Board of Dentistry, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Anthony Villane, D.D.S.

President

I have read and understand the within Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.

Richard Rickards